

-- IN THE CLAIMS --

Please cancel claims 1-10, and add the following new claims:

1 11. In the process for generating shock waves for medical uses by application of a high electrical voltage to two electrodes mounted in a liquid medium, wherein the improvement comprises adding to said liquid medium at least in the area surrounding the electrodes an effective amount of a catalyst to suppress electrolytic formation of gases due to application of said high voltage to said electrodes.

2 12. In the process for generating shock waves for medical uses by application of a high electrical voltage to two electrodes mounted in a liquid medium, wherein the improvement comprises adding to said liquid medium at least in the area surrounding the electrodes an effective amount of a catalyst to promote formation of said liquid medium by recombination of gases formed by application of said high voltage to said electrodes.

3 13. A process for suppressing formation and/or promoting recombination of gases formed during generation of shock waves by application of a high electrical voltage to two electrodes mounted in a liquid medium, which process comprises adding to said liquid medium an effective amount of a catalyst to suppress formation and/or promote recombination of said gases.

4 ~~14.~~ A device for generating shock waves for medical uses by means of a high voltage electrical spark discharge comprising:

Ans B1 (a) a pair of electrodes; and

(b) a liquid medium containing an effective amount of a catalyst to suppress formation and/or promote recombination of gases formed as a result of said high voltage electrical spark discharge.

5 ~~15.~~ The device of claim ~~14~~ wherein said liquid medium is water and the catalyst is a hydrogenation catalyst.

6 ~~16.~~ The device of claim ~~15~~ wherein said hydrogenation catalyst is selected from the group consisting of platinum and palladium.

Ans B2 ~~17.~~ The device of claim ~~16~~ wherein said catalyst is platinum and said platinum catalyst is selected from the group consisting of platinum on active carbon, platinum powder, platinum sponge and platinum black.

Ans B3 ~~18.~~ The device of claim ~~16~~, wherein said palladium catalyst is selected from the group consisting of palladium on active carbon, palladium powder, palladium sponge and palladium black.

~~19.~~ The device according to claims ~~14~~, ~~15~~, ~~16~~, ~~17~~, or ~~18~~ wherein the catalyst concentration is at least 0.1 mg/ml.

~~20.~~ The device according to claim ~~19~~, wherein the catalyst concentration is 0.2-4 mg/ml.

11 ~~21~~. A device for generating shock waves for medical uses by means of a high voltage electrical spark discharge comprising:

(a) a pair of electrodes; <sup>↕</sup>

*ins 34* (b) a liquid medium; and

(c) a catalyst dispersed in said liquid medium in an effective amount to suppress formation and/or promote recombination of gases formed as a result of said high voltage electrical spark discharge.

*12* ~~22~~. A device for producing shockwaves by means of an electrical spark gap discharge comprising: a housing containing a liquid medium; a pair of closely-spaced discharge electrodes, an enclosure disposed about said electrodes in said housing; an electrically conductive liquid medium filling said enclosure, said electrically conductive liquid medium having an effective amount of a catalyst to suppress formation and/or promote recombination of gases formed as a result of said high voltage electrical spark discharge.